

μ -Spec: A High Performance Compact Spectrometer for Submillimeter Astronomy

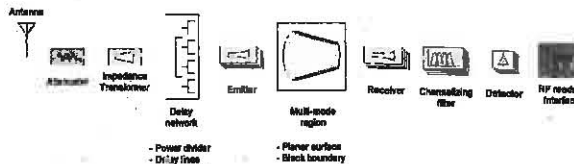
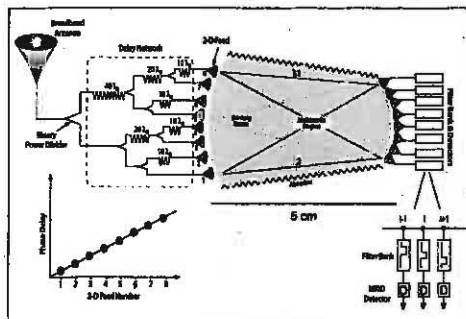


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μ -Spec: Revolutionary Instrument on a Chip

μ -Spec – an analog of a grating spectrometer, reduced in size by many orders of magnitude through the use of superconducting transmission lines on low loss single crystal Si dielectric.



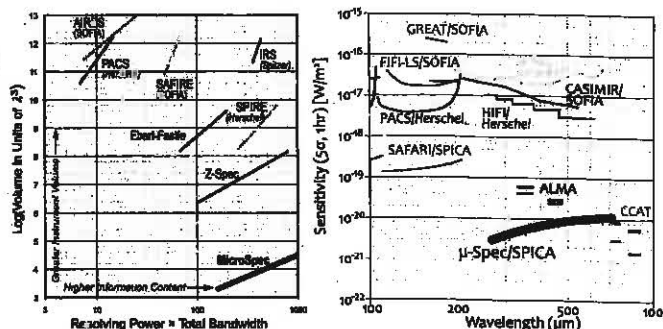
- μ -Spec is the first fully integrated high performance spectrometer system covering 250 – 700 μ m in wavelength.
- The detectors are deeply imbedded in microstrip circuitry, allowing extensive filtering and excellent isolation from thermal backgrounds.
- μ -Spec can couple to large two dimensional arrays of detectors in a very small volume – built on a 4-inch Si wafer.
- Transmission line optics can be highly corrected to provide diffraction limited imaging of the spectrum.
- System integration risk is lowered with fully integrated spectrometer.

μ -Spec sensitivity - limited only by the statistics of the input photons

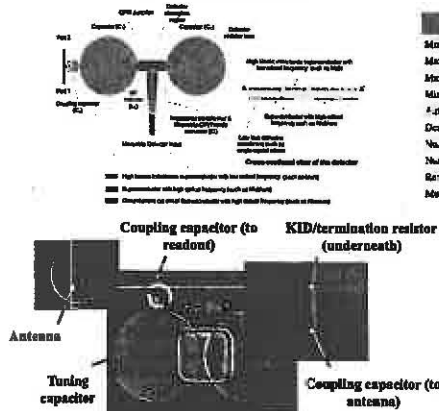
The Herschel PACS instrument, a moderate resolution far infrared spectrometer.



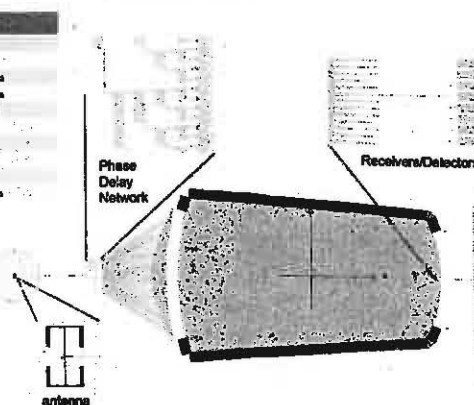
μ -Spec, a submillimeter spectrometer with greater capability, approximately to scale.



Low Noise Equivalent Power Microwave Kinetic Detector



Low Resolution Spectrometer Demonstration



- μ -Spec will be a strong competitor for a wide range of current and future missions, such as the Early Universe Spectroscopic Explorer and SPICA.
- μ -Spec will also significantly enhance the capability of the future mission concepts, such as SAFIR, SPIRIT, and SPECS.